



Six-Month Emergency Response Progress Report:

PHILIPPINES TYPHOON HAIYAN

*AmeriCares immediately launched a large-scale response
to save lives, reduce suffering and restore health care services
for survivors—an effort that is still underway.*



RESTORING HEALTH IN THE PHILIPPINES

On November 8, 2013, a typhoon struck the Central Philippines with sustained winds of 150 mph and a 15-foot storm surge. In hours, more than 18 million people were affected: more than 6,000 people were killed and 550,000 left homeless; an estimated 2,000 health facilities were damaged or destroyed.

Based on our 30 years of experience responding to disasters worldwide, our goal is to confront the crisis, respond immediately and work alongside our local partners to repair and rebuild to create long-term, sustainable improvements in the health system and services.

Our comprehensive response to Typhoon Haiyan began before the storm with deliveries of emergency medical kits. Throughout the response, we have drawn on our established network of strong local partners, so far collaborating with more than 100 organizations, including the Philippines Department of Health.

Our goals were and continue to be:

1. **Treat the injured and protect the health of survivors:** Deliver medicines and supplies to frontline health workers so they can diagnose, treat and heal.
2. **Re-establish health services:** Support medical teams caring for displaced survivors, transport urgent-care patients and provide equipment to re-open health centers.
3. **Rebuild health facilities:** Identify, prioritize and repair damaged clinics and health centers, and improve their ability to withstand future disasters.
4. **Create healthy futures for affected communities:** Introduce training to expand health workers' skills in the areas of mental health and psychosocial support, malnutrition surveillance and disaster preparedness.

In just six months, we have made measureable progress on these goals, as this report shows. We are committed to working alongside our partners in the Philippines into 2015, and longer if need be.

Thank you for your support in this important endeavor.

Sincerely,

Garrett Ingolia
Vice President, Emergency Response

► [See an interactive map of our Philippines typhoon response work.](#)

“When we drove into Tacloban, there was no power, no fuel, the streets were full of debris and more than 200 people a day were arriving at the damaged hospital with wounds, infections and respiratory illnesses.”
— Kate Dischino, AmeriCares Emergency Response Manager



1) IMMEDIATE RESPONSE SAVES LIVES



Strong partnerships enable a quick response. While AmeriCares Emergency Response team members were traveling to the Philippines, our Philippine partners were beginning to move pre-positioned relief supplies from Manila to the disaster area.

Within 72 hours of the storm, AmeriCares team members were in the field guiding deliveries, coordinating relief and assessing damage to target our response. In the three weeks following the storm, AmeriCares had made 29 shipments

to the disaster area, with enough medicine to fill 148,000 prescriptions and more than 250,000 units of medical supplies—total value more than \$3 million.

Before the storm: Our Filipino partners could immediately supply an estimated 19,000 survivors with critical medicines and relief supplies, because, with support from donors, AmeriCares had pre-positioned materials in the Philippines before this typhoon season.

IN THE FIRST SIX MONTHS, AmeriCares delivered critical medicines to 44 health facilities in the Central Philippines, including enough medicine to fill 924,000 prescriptions.

Medicines included:

Antibiotics to fill 107,000 prescriptions for people with acute infections

Pain medications to fill 46,000 prescriptions

Cardiovascular medications for 47,000 patients for three months

Diabetes medicines for 16,000 diabetic patients for three months

300,000 units of **gauze, bandages** and other wound dressings

Photos by Matthew McDermott/AmeriCares

“To deliver medicines and medical supplies from Cebu to the regional medical center in Tacloban, we loaded the shipment onto an Indonesian military cargo plane, then American Marines unloaded our cargo in Tacloban and the Philippines Army transported the supplies to the medical center. Finally, we flew back to Cebu courtesy of the Philippines Air Force. We completed this huge logistical operation without tickets—just cooperation and a sense of purpose among the humanitarian organizations involved.”

—Karl Erdmann, AmeriCares Emergency Response Manager



▶ watch the video



2) HEALTH SERVICES FOR SURVIVORS

The AmeriCares response team coordinated with the government and health partners to restore health services in the disaster area. Continuity of health care is crucial to save lives and prevent the spread of disease. We were also concerned that, without secure jobs, health workers would move from the area.

Our field team delivered medicines and equipment such as generators so staff of damaged health centers could treat survivors. We also provided transportation services for patients and clinic staff, and salaries for health workers.

TO RESTORE HEALTH SERVICES, WE PROVIDED:

Generators for health centers to power refrigerators chilling critical vaccines

Two health teams to serve thousands of survivors in Pontevedra and Pilar

Transportation for patients to functioning health centers and hospitals

Clean birth kits for damaged but functioning health centers



“One of the difficulties in any kind of huge humanitarian response is getting the right resources at the right time and AmeriCares has done a great job getting on the ground quickly, identifying needs and getting the right medications here at the right time.”

—Rob Bristow, MD, MPH, Medical Director, NYC Medics, at Guiuan, Eastern Samar

▶ watch the video



Injured in the debris-filled storm surge, many Filipinos made their way to health centers only to find long lines and shelves empty of medicines. From airlifted shipments, AmeriCares created kits of critical medicines and delivered them to clinics stretched beyond their limits. One patient in Pontevedra, 72-year-old Estelita, had cut her foot while wading through chest-deep water but could get only a three-day supply of antibiotics. When an AmeriCares kit of medicines arrived at a local clinic, Estelita received the additional antibiotics she needed to treat an infection.

3) REPAIR AND REBUILD HEALTH CENTERS



In collaboration with the Philippines Department of Health and local partners, AmeriCares is repairing 67 community health centers, mostly in hard-hit rural areas. Half of these facilities suffered extensive damage and were closed, while the others were partially operational. We are providing medical equipment, replacing roofs and windows, reconnecting water and power and, when possible, building in measures to mitigate damage in future disasters. This work will restore health services for an estimated 1.3 million people.

“Thank you AmeriCares for coming to this remote site and rehabilitating our barangay health center. [Members of] our community don’t have enough [money] to pay for transport to a higher level [health] facility. Rehabilitation of this facility will be a great financial help for them. As a health worker, I will have a better environment to work”.

—Mrs. Vilmasantillan, health worker at village health station in Kampingganon, Bantayan, Region 7



“We brought small generators, medicines and supplies so health centers could re-open and treat patients, even before roofs and windows were repaired. People were lining up to receive care.”

– Brian Hoyer, AmeriCares Director Post-Emergency



4) FOUNDATION FOR A HEALTHY FUTURE

To help communities and individuals heal, AmeriCares and its partners are providing training so health workers can recognize signs of mental illness and malnutrition in survivors. In the first six months, our training has given more than 1,300 health workers and community leaders the skills to identify, treat and refer survivors needing mental health and psychosocial support. Such support will lower survivors’ risk of depression, post-traumatic stress and other mental health conditions.

In regions where the storm wiped out crops and damaged farmlands, we have trained health workers to identify and monitor children at risk for malnutrition and deliver nutrition and related services.

As our recovery efforts continue, we will be developing disaster preparedness programs. This forward-looking work is crucial because the Philippines lies in a typhoon belt and is buffeted by severe storms every year.

NEW SUPPORT FOR SURVIVORS INCLUDES:

Training health workers and community leaders to assess and treat mental health and psychosocial issues in the hardest-hit areas

Increasing knowledge of basic nutrition among health workers in select regions where malnutrition is a risk

Preparedness for future disasters



REBUILDING 67 HEALTH CENTERS

40 rural health centers in the Western Visayas region

18 village health centers in Capiz, Leyte and Cebu provinces

Six rural health centers in Capiz, Leyte and Cebu provinces

Three urban clinics and hospitals in Capiz and Leyte provinces



BEFORE



AFTER

“We’re so thankful that AmeriCares identified and repaired facilities, particularly barangay (village) health stations. We know that rural health clinics and barangay health stations are now functioning normally. We cannot thank you enough for the assistance you have provided.

Based on the monitoring reports, some health stations still need medicines. We hope you will continue to provide the medicines and supplies they need while we continue to provide technical assistance, until such time that the local government has fully recovered and is self-sustaining.”

—Dr. Lakshmi Legaspi, Department of Health Assistant Director, Region 7



AmeriCares

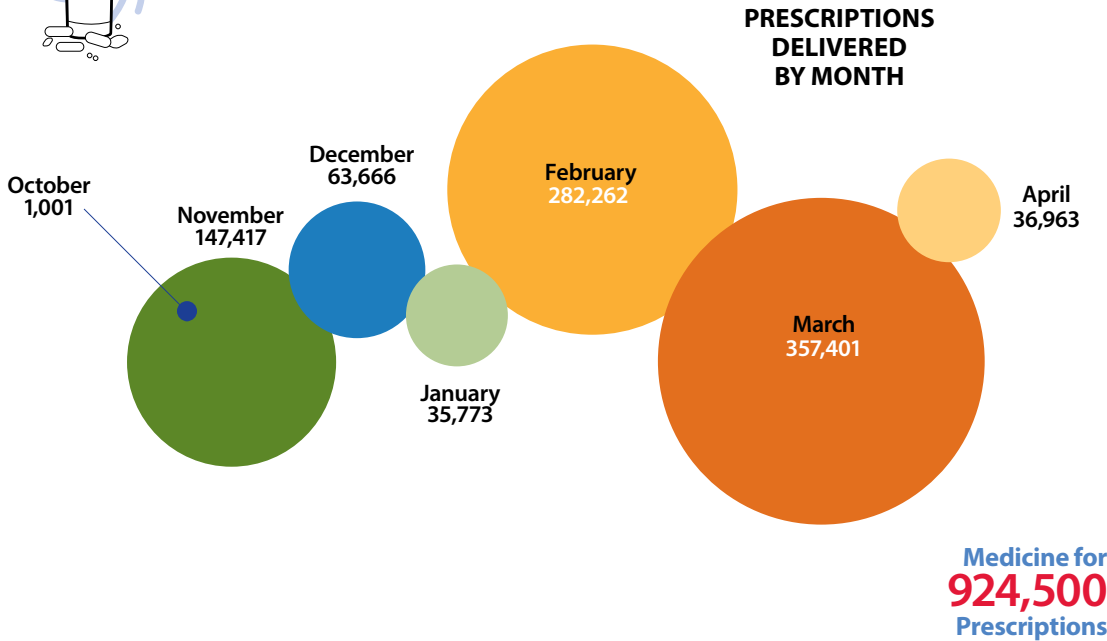
Philippines Typhoon Haiyan: The First Six Months

\$19.7 million
in medicines, supplies, and health services
reaching storm-damaged regions

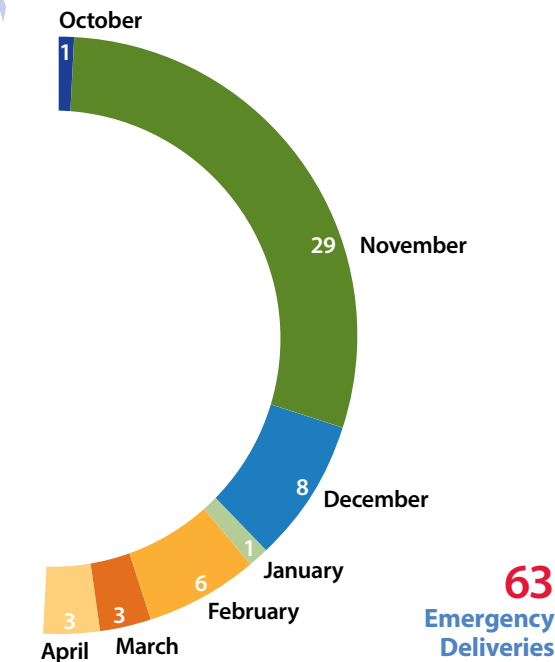
To protect the health of
1.3 million people
affected by Typhoon Haiyan



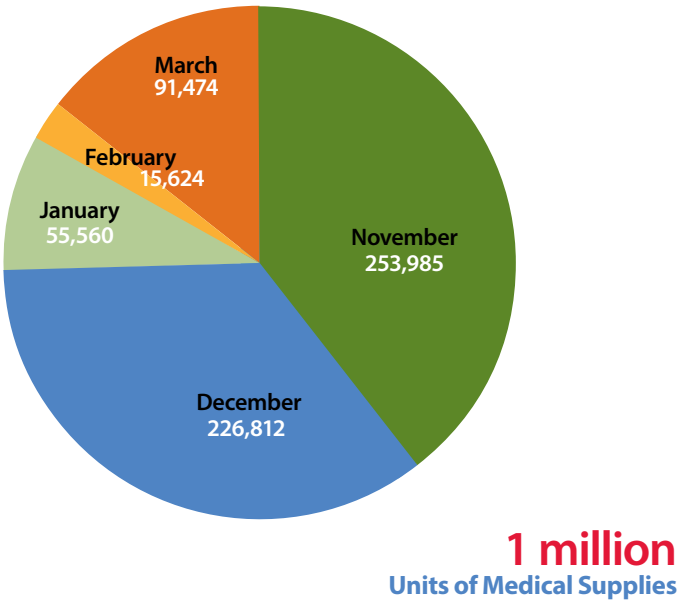
DELIVERIES OF MEDICINES AND MEDICAL SUPPLIES



EMERGENCY DELIVERIES BY MONTH

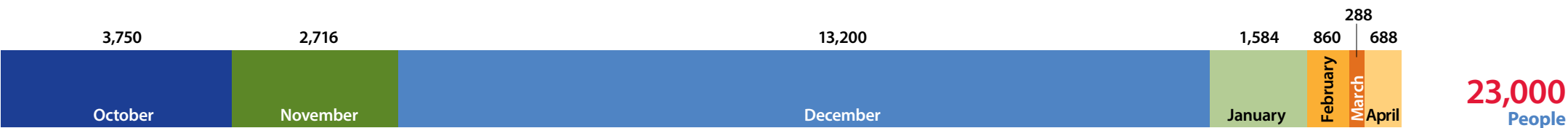


NUMBER OF MEDICAL SUPPLIES DELIVERED BY MONTH



RELIEF SUPPLIES

Estimated people reached with non-medical relief supplies



HEALTH FACILITIES AND HEALTH WORKERS

Health workers employed at facilities being repaired by AmeriCares



Health facilities repaired



Residents served by repaired facilities



HEALTH WORKERS

Health workers trained to meet the increased needs of survivors



*projects committed